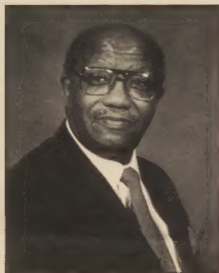


*CELEBRATION OF LIFE
FOR
APOSTLE JAMES W. PARROTT, SR.*



JULY 25, 1923 - SEPTEMBER 23, 1997

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 1997 11:00 A.M.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

*275 WEST MARKET STREET
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07103*

DR. JAMES SCOTT, MINISTER

*APOSTLE WILBUR L. JONES AND
APOSTLE JAMES I. CLARK JR. OFFICIATING*

CHIEF APOSTLE WILLIAM L. BONNER, EULOGIST

OBITUARY

APOSTLE JAMES W. PARROTT SR.

July 25, 1923 - September 23, 1997

Susan Parrott experienced the loss of three of six children due to the high infant mortality rate of the 1920's, yet she promised God that if her last child would live, she would be saved and that he would be saved also. That child, James W. Parrott, was the sixth child of Cecil and Susan Parrott.

James Parrott, Sr. was educated in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and inducted into the Armed Forces in 1941. Having served in the Pacific he was promoted to master sergeant. After his discharge he was employed by the Veterans Administration and pursued business studies at Vale Business School. Upon graduation he was employed with the US. Air Force as a Procurement Agent and Contractor.

In 1949, he married Ann Wood Clark, the daughter of the late William and Catherine Clark. This was the beginning of a beautiful partnership that included everything from the raising of their children, the founding of Lighthouse Temple and Lighthouse Community Services, Inc. To their union six children were born: James, Jr., Dennis (deceased), Joan, Steven, Andrew and Mark.

The ministry that James Parrott was called to is diverse and exciting. He served as a Deacon for 17 years under the late Elder Edward S. Harris. He also served as Minister of Music and many other capacities along with his life long friend Bishop Harry T. Spellman. He founded the "N.J. Youth Crusade" which attracted people from the Tri-State area the third Wednesday night of each month. He accepted the call to ministry and was licensed as Minister of the Way of the Cross Church in Newark, New Jersey. He was elevated to exhorter and sent to Cliffwood, New Jersey by the late Bishop R. C. Lawson as licentiate and finally ordained as an elder in the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc. November 13, 1963 marked the founding first services of the Lighthouse Church of Christ. Beginning with eight members and his family, the church began in the living room of the Parrott household in East Orange. In 1965, he left the Air Force to work in the ministry as full time Pastor of the Lighthouse Church of Christ, New Jersey. For 25 years, he served as Executive Secretary to the Late Apostle Robert S. Grayer, Bishop of the State of New Jersey. It was the hand of God guiding by faith and miracles which allowed them to purchase two buildings in the City of Newark before moving to 1035 Broad Street.

In 1974, he was consecrated Bishop of the Metropolitan Diocese of New Jersey. As an Elder and Bishop, James Parrott served the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ as an administrator and leader. He served as National ABYPU President, Secretary to the Board of Presbyters and the Board of Bishops, International Recording Secretary, and International Youth Congress President.

Yet the heart of this visionary was not made known until 1982 when he opened what was known as the Soup Kitchen at 1035. This small seemingly gesture of consciousness cast a die for what was to separate the ministry of James W. Parrott, Sr. from the ordinary. Bishop saw a need to go beyond the church walls and go directly into a ministry that dealt with the homeless and the indigent.

Lighthouse Community Services was founded in 1981 at 1035 Broad Street and incorporated in 1989. The first meal was served on February 19, 1981 which consisted of homemade combread and soup prepared by Mother Betty Martin and Mother Constance Baskerville. They started feeding a small group of about 20 individuals three times a week from 12:00 noon until 2:00 p.m. What started as a modest number of 20 grew to 50 then to 100, then 200 until the count reached 757.

As the feeding program began to grow, the Lighthouse Temple was forced to move from their location. Through the efforts of Reverend Joan Parrott and Elder Steven F. Parrott and through the abundance of miracles worked through our Honorable Mayor, Sharpe James, the Lighthouse Community Services, Inc. was founded. Today the Lighthouse continues to fulfill the mandate of the scripture according to Matthew 25:35-36, "For I was hungry and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and you gave me drink; I was a stranger, and you took me in; I was naked, and you clothed me; I was sick and ye visited me; I was in prison, and you visited me not."

Today's program consists of the following: 500 persons being served daily, clothing, shelter for up to 80 men and women, GED preparation in liaison with the Newark Board of Education, spiritual counseling, legal advocacy and job resume and preparation. A coalition of 12 churches in Essex County that provide up to 1,500 meals per day. The vision continues to grow.

Because of his outstanding humanitarian efforts he was nominated, and selected over other qualified candidates by the Board of Governors of Rutgers University, which conferred upon him the Doctorate of Humane Letters in May, 1996. Also in that same year he was selected as one of the most influential people in New Jersey and he received a host of numerous other awards. One of the most prestigious honors bestowed upon him was the consecration to the office of honorary Apostle of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

His life will continue through the Parrott Family. His loving wife, Mother Ann Parrott, First Lady and Shepherd Mother of Lighthouse Temple; Diocese Missionary President, Corresponding Secretary of the International Missionary Department. His children, District Elder James Parrott, Jr. - Co-Pastor of Lighthouse Temple, Chairman of Lighthouse Community Services; District Elder Steven Parrott, Sr. - presiding Co-Pastor of Lighthouse Temple and Executive of Lighthouse Community Services; Reverend Joan Parrott - Deputy General Secretary of the American Baptist Church and Vice-President of the National Council of Churches, USA; District Elder A. Phillip Parrott - Pastor of Bible Way Church in Trenton, NJ; Deacon Mark Parrott, Sr. - Deacon Lighthouse Temple and Vice-President of AIG Trading Group.

While each of them have made accomplishments in career, education, in church and in their own right, they have learned the lesson faithfulness to God's people, the necessity of sacrifice if a harvest is to be reaped in the lesson of Godly living. We consider this blessing to be a special anointing. This anointing has also been received by those who have prospered under the ministry of Bishop Parrott and the Lighthouse Temple.

He was preceded in death by his son, Dennis (Evonnie). He leaves to mourn his devoted and loving wife, Ann Parrott, children James, Jr. (Judy), Joan, Steven (Jeannice), Andrew (Dyanne), and Mark (Dorie), one sister, Daisy Rice, sister-in-laws, Betty Martin (Tommy), and Florestine Parrott, brother-in-laws, William Clark (Susan), James Clark (Mary), John Clark (Earlene), 14 grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional

Chief Apostle
Presiding Apostle
Board of Apostles
Board of Bishops
Visiting Bishops
Board of Presbyters
International Board of Deacons
Civic Leaders
The Family

Medley of Praise

Prayer of Comfort Bishop James Howard
Pentecostal Assembly of the World

Old Testament (Psalms 37:1-11) Bishop Clarence Groover

New Testament Scripture (Corinthians 15:50-58) Bishop William G. Fields

Selection Strait Gate Judah Chorale

Reflections/Tributes/Resolutions (2 Minutes Please)

Civic and Community Leaders
Honorable Mayor Sharpe James
Dr. Francis L. Lawrence
Sheriff Armando Fontoura
Congressman Donald Payne
Catherine D'Chario
Steven Aduabato
Lighthouse Community Services, Inc.

Selection Tri-Diocese Choir

Reflections/Tributes/Resolutions

International Missionary Department Mother Mildred Woolfolk
International Women's Council Mother Sandra Jones
International Ministers and Deacons Wives Guild Dr. Celeste Johnson
Mother Phyllis Carter (Goddughter)
Former State Mother Of the Ecclesiastical Diocese of N.J. Mother Annie Grayer
Mother of Africa Mother Pandora Williams
Solo Elder T. J. Martin

10 years
so wonderful Mother Maggie FRAZIER

Reflections/Tributes/Resolutions

Visiting Clergy

Dr. James A. Scott

Reverend Cheryl Wade

Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker

Reverend Monsignor William J. Linder

Reverend Chuck Leber

Apostle Huie L. Rogers

Apostle Lymus Johnson

Selection Tri-Diocese Choir

Reflections/Tributes/Resolutions

Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ Clergy

Board of Apostles

Board of Bishops

Metropolitan Diocese - Bishop Carl Ellis, Assistant to the Bishop of the Metropolitan Diocese

Board of Presbyters

International Union of Deacons

Lighthouse Temple Church

Mother Lelia Gartman (Women's Council)

Deacon John Taylor (Church and Deacon Board Trustee)

Acknowledgments Bishop T. E. Woolfolk

Reading of the Obituary Apostle Wilbur Jones

Tributes from the Family Parrott Family

Introduction of the Speaker Apostle Gentle Groover, Presiding
Apostle, Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.

Solo Mother Helen Williams

Eulogy Bishop W. L. Bonner, Chief Apostle
Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.

Recessional Strait Gate Judah Chorale

Interment Rosedale Cemetery
Orange, New Jersey

Repasse Bethany Baptist Church
Newark, New Jersey

A Soul's Soliloquy

Today the journey is ended, I have worked out the mandates of fate;

Naked, alone, undescended, I knock at the Uttermost Gate.

Behind is life and its longing, its trial, its trouble, its sorrow;

Beyond is the infinite morning of a day without tomorrow.

Go back to dust and decay, body, grown weary and old;

You are worthless to me from today - No longer my soul can you hold.

I lay you down gladly forever

For a life that is better than this; I go where partings ne'er sever.

You into oblivion's abyss

Lo, the gate swings wide at my knocking, across endless reaches I see

Lost friends with laughter come flocking

To give a glad welcome to me.

Farewell, the maze has been threaded,

This is the ending of strife;

Say not that death shall be dreaded -

'Tis but the beginning of life.

Wenonah Stevens Abbott

PALLBEARERS

Elder James Parrott, Sr.
Elder Steven F. Parrot, Sr.
Elder A. Philip Parrott
Deacon Mark E. Parrott
Elder T. J. Martin
James Jenkins

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

James W. Parrott, III
Steven F. Parrott, Jr.
Justin P. Parrott
Michael C. Parrott
Mark E. Parrott, II
Karlton D. Parrott

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Parrott family acknowledges with deep appreciation
all expressions of kindness extended to them
during this bereavement hour.
God Bless you all.

Arrangements by
COTTON FUNERAL SERVICES
130 MAIN STREET
ORANGE, NEW JERSEY